

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) An image data converting apparatus for converting first compressed image data to second compressed image data being more compressed than the first compressed image data, said first compressed image data being interlaced-scan data compressed by orthogonal transform and motion compensation, and said second compressed data being serial-scan data, said apparatus comprising:

image data decoding means for decoding the first compressed image data by using only lower m th-order orthogonal transform coefficients included in n th-order orthogonal transform coefficients (where $m < n$), in both a vertical direction and a horizontal direction in the first compressed image data;

scan-converting means for converting interlaced-scan data output from the image data decoding means to serial-scan data;

image data encoding means for encoding the serial-scan data, thereby generating the second compressed image data; and

wherein the image data decoding means comprises compression inverse discrete-cosine transform means of a frame-discrete cosine transform mode, wherein the compression inverse discrete-cosine transform means of frame-discrete cosine transform mode performs the inverse discrete cosine transform by using a part of coefficients included in (4×8) th-order discrete cosine

transform coefficients input to achieve the field-discrete compression inverse discrete cosine transform, while replacing remaining coefficients by 0s, thus discarding the remaining coefficients, and

wherein the part of the coefficients included in the (4X8)th-order discrete cosine transform coefficients is only (4X4) and (4X2) th-order coefficients included in (4 x 8)th-order discrete cosine transform coefficients.

2. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first compressed image data is MPEG2-image compressed data containing eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, the image data decoding means is MPEG2-image data decoding means for decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, by using only lower fourth-order coefficients included in the eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients, and the image data encoding means is MPEG4-image encoding means for encoding the serial-scan data from the scan converting means, thereby generating MPEG4-image compressed data.

3. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising picture-type determining means for determining a code type of each frame in the interlaced-scan MPEG2-image compressed data, for outputting data about an intra-image encoded image/forward prediction encoded image, and for discarding data about a bi-directional prediction encoded image, thereby to convert a frame rate, wherein an output of the picture-type determining means is input to the MPEG2-image data decoding means.

4. (original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the MPEG2-image data decoding means decodes only the intra-image encoded image/forward prediction encoded image.

5. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the MPEG2-image data decoding means comprises variable-length decoding means, and the variable-length decoding means performs variable-length decoding on only discrete cosine transform coefficients required in a discrete cosine transform, in accordance with whether a macro block of the input MPEG2-image compressed data is of a field-discrete cosine transform mode or a frame-discrete cosine transform mode.

6. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the MPEG2-image data decoding means comprises compression inverse discrete-cosine transform means of a field-discrete cosine transform mode, the compression inverse discrete-cosine transform means extracts only the lower fourth-order coefficients included in the eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients, in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, and then performs a fourth-order inverse discrete cosine transform on the lower fourth-order coefficients extracted.

7. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the inverse discrete-cosine transform is carried out in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction by a method based on a predetermined fast algorithm.

8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the inverse discrete-cosine transform is carried out in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction by a method based on a predetermined fast algorithm.

10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the MPEG2-image data decoding means comprises motion-compensating means, wherein the motion-compensating means performs 1/4-precision pixel interpolation in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction in accordance with a motion vector contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data.

12. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the motion-compensating means initially performs 1/2-precision pixel interpolation in the horizontal direction by using a twofold interpolation digital filter and then performs the 1/4-precision pixel interpolation by means of linear interpolation.

13. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the motion-compensating means initially performs 1/2-precision pixel interpolation in a field, as vertical interpolation by using a twofold interpolation digital filter, and then performs the 1/4-precision pixel interpolation in the field by means of linear interpolation, when a macro block of the input MPEG2-image compressed data is of a field prediction mode.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus according to

claim 11, wherein the motion-compensating means initially performs 1/2-precision pixel interpolation in a field, as vertical interpolation by using a twofold interpolation digital filter, and then performs the 1/4-precision pixel interpolation in the field by means of linear interpolation, when a macro block of the input MPEG2-image compressed data is of a frame prediction mode.

15. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the motion-compensating means includes a half-band digital filter for performing the pixel interpolation in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction.

16. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the MPEG2-image data decoding means further comprises storage means for storing pixel values, and the motion-compensating means calculates coefficients equivalent to a sequence interpolating operation and applies the coefficients, thereby to perform motion compensation on the pixel values read from the storage means in accordance with the motion vector contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data.

17. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein, when pixel values outside an image frame are required to achieve twofold interpolation, the motion-compensating means performs one of a mirror process and a hold process, thereby generating a number of virtual pixel values equal to a number of taps provided in a filter in order to accomplish motion compensation, before performing the motion compensation.

18. (previously presented) An image data converting

apparatus for converting first compressed image data to second compressed image data being more compressed than the first compressed image data, said first compressed image data being interlaced-scan data compressed by orthogonal transform and motion compensation, and said second compressed data being serial-scan data, said apparatus comprising:

image data decoding means for decoding the first compressed image data by using only lower m th-order orthogonal transform coefficients included in n th-order orthogonal transform coefficients (where $m < n$), in both a vertical direction and a horizontal direction in the first compressed image data;

scan-converting means for converting interlaced-scan data output from the image data decoding means to serial-scan data;

image data encoding means for encoding the serial-scan data, thereby generating the second compressed image data; and

wherein the image data decoding means comprises compression inverse discrete-cosine transform means of a frame-discrete cosine transform mode, wherein the compression inverse discrete-cosine transform means of frame-discrete cosine transform mode performs the inverse discrete cosine transform by using a part of coefficients included in (4×8) th-order discrete cosine transform coefficients input to achieve the field-discrete compression inverse discrete cosine transform, while replacing remaining coefficients by 0s, thus discarding the remaining coefficients,

wherein the first compressed image data is MPEG2-image compressed data containing eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, the image data decoding means is MPEG2-

image data decoding means for decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, by using only lower fourth-order coefficients included in the eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients, and the image data encoding means is MPEG4-image encoding means for encoding the serial-scan data from the scan converting means, thereby generating MPEG4-image compressed data,

wherein the MPEG2-image data decoding means comprises motion-compensating means, wherein the motion-compensating means performs 1/4-precision pixel interpolation in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction in accordance with a motion vector contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data,

wherein, when pixel values outside an image frame are required to achieve twofold interpolation, the motion-compensating means performs one of a mirror process and a hold process, thereby generating a number of virtual pixel values equal to a number of taps provided in a filter in order to accomplish motion compensation, before performing the motion compensation, and

wherein the motion-compensating means performs one of the mirror process and the hold process in units of fields.

19. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the scan-converting means preserves one of a first field and a second field of the interlaced-scan image data output from the MPEG2-image data decoding means, discards the one of the first and second fields not preserved, and performs twofold up-sampling on preserved pixel values, thereby converting the interlaced-scan data to serial-scan data.

20. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the MPEG2-image data decoding means has the function of decoding only a region composed of one or more macro blocks that surround an object in an intra-image encoded image/forward prediction encoded image.

21. (previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising motion-vector synthesizing means for generating a motion vector value corresponding to the image data subjected to scan conversion, from a motion vector data contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data.

22. (original) The apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising motion-vector detecting means for detecting a high-precision motion vector from the motion vector value generated by the motion-vector synthesizing means.

23. (currently amended) An image data converting method of converting first compressed image data to second compressed image data being more compressed than the first compressed image data, said first compressed image data being interlaced-scan data compressed by orthogonal transform and motion compensation, and said second compressed data being serial-scan data, said method comprising the steps of:

decoding the first compressed image data by using only lower mth-order orthogonal transform coefficients included in nth-order orthogonal transform coefficients (where $m < n$), in both a vertical direction and a horizontal direction in the first compressed image data;

converting interlaced-scan data output from the step of decoding to serial-scan data;

encoding the serial-scan data, thereby generating the

second compressed image data; and

wherein the step of decoding comprises performing compression inverse discrete-cosine transform of a frame-discrete cosine transform mode, wherein the compression inverse discrete-cosine transform of frame-discrete cosine transform mode performs the inverse discrete cosine transform by using a part of coefficients included in (4X8)th-order discrete cosine transform coefficients input to achieve the field-discrete compression inverse discrete cosine transform, while replacing remaining coefficients by 0s, thus discarding the remaining coefficients,

wherein the first compressed image data is MPEG2-image compressed data containing eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, the step of decoding the first compressed image data decodes the MPEG2-image compressed data in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, by using only lower fourth-order coefficients included in the eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients, and the step of encoding the serial-scan data encodes the serial-scan data, thereby generating MPEG4-image compressed data,

wherein in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data, a compression inverse discrete-cosine transform of a frame-discrete cosine transform mode is performed by extracting only the lower fourth-order coefficients included in eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients and then fourth-order inverse discrete cosine transform is performed on the extracted lower fourth-order coefficients, in the horizontal direction, and field-discrete cosine transform is performed in the vertical direction, and

wherein in the compression inverse discrete-cosine transform of frame-discrete cosine transform mode, only (4X4)

and (4X2) th-order coefficients included in (4 X 8)th-order discrete cosine transform coefficients input are used to achieve inverse cosine transform, while replacing the remaining coefficients by 0s.

24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2423, wherein the code type of each frame in the interlaced-scan MPEG2-image compressed data is determined, data about an intra-image encoded image/forward prediction encoded image is output in accordance with the code type determined, data about a bi-directional prediction encoded image is discarded thereby to convert a frame rate, and the MPEG4-image compressed data is generated from the converted frame rate.

26. (original) The method according to claim 25, wherein only the intra-image encoded image/forward prediction encoded image is decoded in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data.

27. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2423, wherein in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data, variable-length decoding is performed on only the discrete cosine transform coefficients required in a discrete cosine transform, in accordance with whether a macro block of the input MPEG2-image compressed data is one of a field-discrete cosine transform mode and a frame-discrete cosine transform mode.

28. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2423, wherein in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data, an inverse discrete-cosine transform of a field-discrete

cosine transform mode is performed by extracting only the lower fourth-order coefficients included in eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients, in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, and then by performing fourth-order inverse discrete cosine transform on the extracted lower fourth-order coefficients.

29. (original) The method according to claim 28, wherein the inverse cosine transform is carried out in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction, by a method based on a predetermined fast algorithm.

30. (cancelled)

31. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3023, wherein the inverse cosine transform is carried out in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction, by a method based on a predetermined fast algorithm.

32. (cancelled)

33. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2423, wherein in motion compensation performed in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data, 1/4-precision pixel interpolation is carried out in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction, in accordance with a motion vector contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data.

34. (previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein in the step of performing motion compensation, 1/2-precision pixel interpolation is initially performed in the horizontal direction by using a twofold interpolation digital

filter and then 1/4-precision pixel interpolation is performed by means of linear interpolation.

35. (previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein in the step of performing motion compensation, 1/2-precision pixel interpolation is initially performed in a field, as vertical interpolation, by using a twofold interpolation digital filter, and then 1/4-precision pixel interpolation is performed in the field by means of linear interpolation, when a macro block of the input MPEG2-image compressed data is of a field prediction mode.

36. (previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein in the step of performing motion compensation, 1/2-precision pixel interpolation is initially performed in a field, as vertical interpolation, by using a twofold interpolation digital filter, and then the 1/4-precision pixel interpolation is performed in the field by means of linear interpolation, when a macro block of the input MPEG2-image compressed data is of a frame prediction mode.

37. (previously presented) The method according to claim 36, wherein in the step of performing motion compensation, a half-band filter is used as the twofold interpolation digital filter, to perform the interpolation.

38. (previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data, pixel values are stored, and in the step of performing motion compensation, coefficients already calculated and equivalent to a sequence interpolating operations are applied, thereby to perform motion compensation on the stored pixel

values, in accordance with the motion vector contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data.

39. (previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein, when pixel values outside an image frame are required to achieve twofold interpolation, one of mirror process and a hold process is performed, thereby generating a number of virtual pixel values equal to a number of taps provided in a filter required in order to accomplish the motion compensation.

40. (currently amended) An image data converting method of converting first compressed image data to second compressed image data being more compressed than the first compressed image data, said first compressed image data being interlaced-scan data compressed by orthogonal transform and motion compensation, and said second compressed data being serial-scan data, said method comprising the steps of:

decoding the first compressed image data by using only lower mth-order orthogonal transform coefficients included in nth-order orthogonal transform coefficients (where $m < n$), in both a vertical direction and a horizontal direction in the first compressed image data;

converting interlaced-scan data output from the step of decoding to serial-scan data;

encoding the serial-scan data, thereby generating the second compressed image data; and

wherein the step of decoding comprises performing compression inverse discrete-cosine transform of a frame-discrete cosine transform mode, wherein the compression inverse discrete-cosine transform of frame-discrete cosine transform mode performs the inverse discrete cosine transform by using a part of coefficients included in (4X8)th-order discrete cosine

transform coefficients input to achieve the field-discrete compression inverse discrete cosine transform, while replacing remaining coefficients by 0s, thus discarding the remaining coefficients,

wherein the first compressed image data is MPEG2-image compressed data containing eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, the step of decoding the first compressed image data decodes the MPEG2-image compressed data in both the vertical direction and the horizontal direction, by using only lower fourth-order coefficients included in the eighth-order discrete cosine transform coefficients, and the step of encoding the serial-scan data encodes the serial-scan data, thereby generating MPEG4-image compressed data

wherein in motion compensation performed in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data, 1/4-precision pixel interpolation is carried out in both the horizontal direction and the vertical direction, in accordance with a motion vector contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data,

wherein, when pixel values outside an image frame are required to achieve twofold interpolation, one of mirror process and a hold process is performed, thereby generating a number of virtual pixel values equal to a number of taps provided in a filter required in order to accomplish the motion compensation, and wherein

in the step of performing the motion compensation, the mirror process or the hold process is carried out in units of fields.

41. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2423, wherein in the step of converting, a first field or a second field of the interlaced-scan image data is preserved, and the

one of the first and second fields that is not preserved is discarded, and twofold up-sampling is performed on preserved pixel values, thereby converting the interlaced-scan data to serial-scan data, said first and second fields being contained in the MPEG2-image compressed data that has been decoded.

42. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2423, wherein only a region composed of one or more macro blocks that surround an object in an intra-image encoded image/forward prediction decoded image is encoded in the step of decoding the MPEG2-image compressed data.

43. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2423, wherein a motion vector value corresponding to the image data subjected to scan conversion is synthesized from motion vector data contained in the input MPEG2-image compressed data.

44. (original) The method according to claim 43, wherein a high-precision motion vector is detected from the motion vector value that has been synthesized.